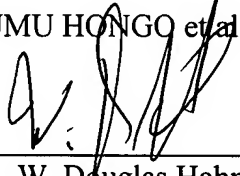


**REMARKS**

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to delete the multiple dependency of the claims, thereby placing such claims in condition for examination and reducing the required PTO filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,

SUSUMU HONGO et al.

By:   
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W. Douglas Hahm  
Registration No. 44,142  
Attorney for Applicants

WDH/ck  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021  
Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
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